

THE BRITISH COLONIST

Saturday Morning, March 28, 1863.

TO ADVERTISERS.
All advertisements, unless the time for which they are to be inserted is specified, will be continued until ordered out, and so charged.

JOB PRINTING.
Rock and Job Printing of every description neatly executed. Terms, cash on delivery of the work.

THE ELECTION TO-DAY.

As the electors are called upon to vote to-day "Aye" or "No" upon the Municipal Trades License By-law, we deem it proper to spread before them the origin of the election and state of public feeling, with the view of correcting any errors that may be admitted, and to enable the electors to form a correct judgment as to whether they will vote "Aye" or "No." In the first place, then, let us state that the Government, unlike all other Governments, where direct taxes are imposed, made it impossible for the City Council to levy taxes on personal property. The highest rate at which a tax could be levied on real estate was fixed. As the latter was totally inadequate to make such city improvements as the town required, as a matter of course, it became the duty of the City Council to seek out other means by which a revenue could be raised. They discovered no means by which they could raise enough revenue to make up for the exemption of personal property from taxation, except by levying licenses and a percentage on the gross sales or receipts of different businesses. As a matter of course, then, the licenses had to be raised higher, and very considerably higher, than they would have had there been a direct tax levied on personal property. In the States and British Provinces licenses are low, and simply from the fact that personal property as well as real estate is taxed. Here the Government has prohibited the personal property tax; and as the City Council, in conformity with the general wish, have levied licenses to make public improvements, we fail to observe any just cause for the loud condemnation that has been uttered against them on account of the scale of licenses. If they had put the licenses low—very low to suit every body—then their constituents would have growled because no taxes were levied to make streets, sewers, &c. Let the electors be considerate, and recollect that if they paid a tax on their personal property of every kind, and a small license besides, it would be tantamount, or very nearly so, to the Trades Licenses imposed by the City Council.

Again, the sum total that the City Council expect to raise from all sources of taxation for the current year is \$25,000 to \$27,000. A very small sum, indeed!

On that basis they have gone into debt at the urgent request of the people to construct streets to the amount of \$11,000, besides other debts, perhaps amounting to \$2,000.

The question now raised against the City Council was raised by the Gas Company. The whole Council is charged with doing this and that, and very unjustly. The truth is the vote on the Gas Company was opposed by Lewis, Stomach, Sealy, and Copland for it, the Mayor gave the casting vote in favour of the one per cent. So all the Council cannot be held responsible for the acts of a half, high, but the reduction of that will not lessen the taxes of others. Let the electors remember that.

Again, it is urged that the By-law is defeated, no taxes can be levied this year. If this be true, do the lot-owners and the workmen of the city wish to see no improvement go on for a year longer? Again, the question is urged by some persons to quash the Corporation. To that we say no! no! no! Preserve your corporation. If it is defective, improve it; but let the people never give up the Municipal Charter.

We believe that a compromise or settlement can be made with reference to the tax on the Gas Company, satisfactory to that body, and to the Corporation.

Let our citizens remember three things: first, that many persons signed the remonstrance to the Governor because they believed the Council had taxed water companies seven-eighths less. But there are no water companies. Second, recollect that the extra tax will only be \$400. Third, that the election is called to save the Gas Company \$400.

AMENDMENT OF THE VETO POWER REQUIRED.

The dispute at present existing between the City Council and the Gas Company cannot fail to convince one that the present provisions for vetoing the By-Laws are not at all calculated to give public satisfaction. We shall not attempt to say whether a general veto power is an evil or a benefit. Some may consider it would be much better if no other interference with the action of those who have been chosen to manage the affairs of the City should be tolerated than that of parliament or the courts of justice. It may be thought that the people having chosen certain officers having interests identical with the general body should not take the management of affairs out of their hands. But with the exception of controlling the borrowing powers of the officers of the Municipality, the people of some at least of the British Provinces of Eastern America, do not interfere with the actions of their Municipal Corporations, and they find the system on the whole to work well. We, however, have got the veto system. Under it the action of the Corporation in passing City By-Laws is liable at any time to be brought to a full stop for a time. The Governor may dissent with the views of the Corporation, and give his disapproval force by vetoing any of the By-Laws, or he may do so at the position of individuals feeling themselves aggrieved by the enactments of the Council. Should he not have to exercise his own vetoing power he may refer it to the electors to exercise their veto. This power having been once exercised, either by the Governor or the people, the corporation have to commence again, and do the whole of their work over. The grounds of objection may have related to only one clause, yet for that clause the whole By-law becomes null. The same thing happens should the veto power be exercised by the people. Now, it is not required by the Act of Incorporation that the particular objection to the By-law should be specified. Although the Governor chose to point out what he considered the objectionable features of the first municipal Trades License By-law, when he vetoed it, yet he might have refrained from doing so. He might have suffered the Council to go on and incorporate in the second By-law the very points to which he first took exception, and when again presented before him repeat his vetoing power. Here then is something calling for legislative interference. If the Council are subject to having their work thrown back upon their hands, there surely should be some provision to have the

objectionable clauses pointed out, and the By-law vetoed as to such portions only. The veto power would then operate in a somewhat similar manner to the action of a court of justice. The latter, supposing it were called upon to decide upon the legality or illegality of a By-law might find against only a portion of it and quash it as to that portion only. Let us suppose, for example, that the Act of Incorporation required any objections to a By-law awaiting the Governor's action should be specific, and that upon its being referred to the municipal vote, the vote should effect only the clauses complained of. The whole question to be decided to-day would be confined, perhaps, to a single issue. Should this go against the Corporation the rest of the By-law would still remain valid. The expunged portions could then be easily amended in a supplementary By-law so as to meet the requirements of the public. The delay which must at present take place upon every exercise of the vetoing power would then be avoided.

NEW ADVERTISEMENTS

Will Positively Appear

THIS EVENING,

MRS. E. J. PRINDLE,

AT THE

STAR AND GARTER

CONCERT HALL,

In conjunction with

S. RAYMOND,

K. JOHNSON,

ETC.....ETC.....ETC

Piano Forte - - - Mr. Harry Taylor.

Church of England.

LENTEN SERVICES.

PASSION WEEK.

AT CHRIST CHURCH.

MORNING—AUTHORITY OF HOLY SCRIPTURE—Spiritual Influences—Bishop of Columbia.

AFTERNOON—CHRISTIAN HOPE—Heavenly Mansions—Rev. E. C. Ridge.

EVENING—CHRISTIAN WATCHFULNESS—Hell—Rev. W. Reece.

MONDAY EVENING—The Temple Cleaned—Rev. R. Dundas.

TUESDAY "—The Fig Tree Withered—Rev. R. Dundas.

WEDNESDAY "—The Covenant of Deity—Rev. C. T. Woods.

THURSDAY "—The Washing of the Disciples—Rev. A. C. Garrett.

GOOD FRIDAY—The Office of the Cross—Bishop of Columbia.

AFTERNOON—Death unto Sin—Rev. E. C. Ridge.

EVENING—Christ on the Cross.

EASTER EVE—The Sabbath Rest—Rev. E. C. Ridge.

AT ST. JOHN'S.

MORNING—Christ—The Life—Rev. R. Dundas.

SUNDAY "—Christ's last Coming—The Final Judgment—Rev. C. T. Woods.

MORNING—The Saviour's Agony—Rev. R. Dundas.

EVENING—The Cross borne for us and in us—Rev. C. T. Woods.

Early Morning Prayer daily at Christ Church, 10 o'clock.

Early Morning Prayer daily at St. John's, 8 o'clock.

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NEW ADVERTISEMENTS.
SILK HATS.
A D A M S,
PIONEER HATTER,
Moore's Hall.
Has Received per "Galveston,"
A Splendid Invoice of Spring Style
SILK AND CASSIMERE HATS.
AUCTION.

MONDAY, March 30, 1863

At 11 o'clock, A. M.,

J. A. McCREA,

WILL SELL

AT SALESROOM, ON WHARF STREET,

ON A LIBERAL CREDIT,

For acct. of whom it may Concern.

BLANKETS.

P, H B in diamond, 15 bales 2 1-2-pnt
White Blankets,

—ALSO—

IN ORDER,

English Clothing,

AMERICAN CLOTHING,

FANCY GOODS,

—ALSO—

AT 11 O'CLOCK, A. M.—SHARP,

On Messrs. St. Ours & Co.'s Wharf,

EX BRIG "GALVESTON,"

FROM SAN FRANCISCO,

ON 30 DAYS CREDIT,

BARLEY,

BUTTER,

30 kegs Choice Istimus Butter,

BACON,

2 cases California Bacon,

PAPER,

5 bales Double Crown Paper,

CANDLES,

50 boxes Adamantine Candles "Assorted Brands,"

APPLES,

10 kegs Dried Apples,

—AND IN STORE—

50 bales China Sugar,

10 half bbls Extra Clear Pork,

1 case Extra Eastern Bacon,

50 kegs East Boston Syrup,

100 boxes English Soap,

—ALSO—

ENGLISH PICKLES,

ENGLISH CHEESE,

SPICES, SUGAR,

HARD BREAD,

—AND IN STORE—

50 bales China Sugar,

NEW ADVERTISEMENTS.
J. MOORHEAD,
St. Nicholas Building,
GOVERNMENT STREET,
HOSIER,
GLOVER,
—AND—
GENERAL OUTFITTER
IMPORTER OF
ENGLISH CLOTHING,
SHIRTS, ETC.,

HAS ALWAYS ON HAND A LARGE AND CAREFULLY SELECTED STOCK OF EVERY ARTICLE IN THE ABOVE LINE, WHICH HE OFFERS

AT THE LOWEST CASH PRICES.

Consignments of Goods by each arrival.

ADJOINING ST. NICHOLAS HOTEL.

VICTORIA

BOOK-BINDERY!

Government st., in rear of Mr. Davis, Surgeon.

THE UNDERSIGNED BEG TO inform the public that he has received from the London and British Columbia that he has opened a Book-binding establishment, and is now prepared to execute all kinds of work in the above line. All orders executed with neatness and dispatch, on the most reasonable terms.

OTTO & MCKENZIE.

FREE FOR USE, AND AN EFFICIENT WATERPROOF ATTEND.

Will have a Free and Easy To-night at 8 o'clock,

FRANCIS DODD, Proprietor.

GOVERNMENT STREET, SOUTH.

John Bell Hotel.

NOTICE.

GOVERNMENT STREET, SOUTH.

Will have a Free and Easy To-night at 8 o'clock,

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GOVERNMENT STREET, SOUTH.

John Bell Hotel.

NEW ADVERTISEMENTS.
ANDERSON & CO
Invite to the Following Goods
The Attention
OF GROCERS

HAMS—Best English York;

EGG— " " Leaf;

DO— " " Caspary No. 1;

OATMEAL—Scotch, in kegs;

BISCUITS—A large variety of Scotch;

PRESERVED MEATS—Soup, Meats, Game and Vegetables, in 1 lb. and 2 lb. tins;

DO—Thornton's Irish, 18 lb. boxes;

DO—Tyson's English Crown, 112 lb. boxes;

DO—Thompson's, 18 lb. boxes;

CONFECTIONERY—A large assortment of Westons' best;

DO—Thompson's, 18 lb. boxes;

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AUCTION SALES.
City Auction Rooms,
FORT STREET, NEAR WHARF.
DANIEL SCOTT & CO.,
Auctioneers & Commission Merchants.
Horse and Cattle Sales on Saturday
A large paddock kept for the accommodation of stock sent for sale.
Reference—MACDONALD & CO., Bankers, Yates street.
Cash advanced on consignments of Merchandise, Stock, etc.

AUCTION.

DANIEL SCOTT

WILL SELL

THIS DAY

SATURDAY, March 28th, 1863,

HORSES,

1 Four-Wheeled Wagon,

1 Dray,

Saddle, Harness and Pack Horses.

F. STEMLER & CO.,

Government st., near Fort, Victoria, V. I.

PRACTICAL UPHOLSTERERS

PAPER HANGERS.

Reg to inform that they have now on hand a large and choice selection of

Paper Hangings;

Oil Cloth, Carpets, Matting;

Oil Table Covers;

Damask for Curtains.

Cornices and Curtain Bands;

Brown Cotton;

Bed Ticking;

Spring, Hair, Moss, and Pulu Mat-trasses.

Also—They are prepared to execute all kinds of work pertaining to the business viz.: Sofas and Lounges made and repaired; Sewing and Laying Carpets; Fixing Window Curtains and Cornices; Hanging Papers;

At the shortest notice, and in the most approved styles. mh20 1m1s

W. R. GIBBON,

IMPORTER AND MANUFACTURER

Saddles, Harness, Riding Bridles,

MILITARY ACCOUTREMENTS,

Et c., Et c., Et c.

DEGS LEAVE TO INFORM THE PUBLIC of Victoria and its vicinity that he has on stock at his shop

ON YATES STREET,

Next door to T. Harris, Esq.'s Meat Depot.

A large assortment of Ladies' & Gents' RIDING SADDLES,

Et c., Et c., Et c.

And every Article necessary in a Stable.

None but the best workmen are employed on the premises.

REPAIRING, Et c., Et c.

Done on the shortest notice and extremely cheap. mh17 1m1s

CHARLES LEVY,

Wharf Street, Victoria, V. I.,

IMPORTER OF

MARRIAGE NO. 3 BURTON ALE, IN HUGHS' CASE;

COAL OIL LAMPS;

CLOTHING, BOOTS AND SHOES; FANCY BLANKETS AND RUGS; MEINSCHEIM PIPES; CUTLERY—In Table Sets and Pocket Knives HARDWARE—A large assortment; FRENCH CLOCKS; WATCHES AND JEWELRY.

AUCTION SALES.
METCHOSIN FARM,
SECTION 1.
Messrs. Franklin
HAVE RECEIVED INSTRUCTIONS to dispose of this beautifully situated and Valuable Estate!

Selected many years ago by Capt. Cooper.

This property is about nine miles distant by water from the City of Victoria and six miles from Esquimaux Town, and contains about

385 Acres of Land,

the greater part of which is

PRAIRIE!

And well adapted for cultivation, superior crops having been raised upon it.

A LIVING STREAM

Runs through it all the year round, with a Picturesque & Never-Failing Waterfall,

which, from its proximity to Town, must in a short time prove of great value to the

MANUFACTURING PURPOSES.

The Water Privilege on the Sound possesses

